Loanhead Primary School Nursery
Day Care of Children
34 Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9DY

Inspected by: Nancy Wyse
Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 31 January 2013
Contents

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Service provided by:
Midlothian Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002602

Care service number:
CS2007157174

Contact details for the inspector who inspected this service:
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Summary

This report and grades represent our assessment of the quality of the areas of performance which were examined during this inspection.

Grades for this care service may change after this inspection following other regulatory activity. For example, if we have to take enforcement action to make the service improve, or if we investigate and agree with a complaint someone makes about the service.

We gave the service these grades

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What the service does well

Loanhead Primary School Nursery provides a high quality service. The environment is child centred, stimulating and challenging for children. Staff are experienced and committed to maintaining and developing the service. The nursery ethos and continued performance demonstrates good practice in encouraging participation of children, parents and carers in the service.

What the service could do better

The nursery should continue to provide a high quality service to children and their families. The nursery should continue to develop their service in line with current legislation and best practice.

What the service has done since the last inspection

We found the provider had taken action to meet the one requirement and one recommendation from the previous inspection. The nursery has continued to work in partnership with parents to improve the service.

Conclusion

Loanhead Primary School Nursery provides a high quality service to children and their families. The views of children, parents and carers are valued and acted upon. Staff
are experienced and approachable.
The Head teacher and staff were committed to evaluating and improving the service.

**Who did this inspection**

Nancy Wyse
# 1 About the service we inspected

Before 01 April 2011 this service was registered with the Care Commission. On this date the new scrutiny body Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (SCSWIS) took over the work of the Care Commission, including the registration of care services. This means that from 01 April 2011 this service continues its registration under the new body, SCSWIS.

Loanhead Primary School Nursery Class is registered to care for a maximum of 30 children per session aged 3 to entry into primary school. There were seventeen children present on the day of the inspection.

The nursery class is situated within Loanhead Primary School.
The nursery operates Monday to Thursday for two sessions between the hours of 8.50 - 12.00 noon and one session on a Friday from 1.00pm -3.15pm.

The nursery comprises of:
* Entrance area
* Large playroom
* Small room
* An enclosed garden
* Small kitchen area

The aims of the nursery include:
"To create a happy, caring and safe environment. To ensure that the children and their families feel a sense of belonging and working in partnership with the nursery staff. To encourage and develop self esteem and independence."

Based on the findings of this inspection this service has been awarded the following grades:

**Quality of Care and Support** - Grade 5 - Very Good
**Quality of Environment** - Grade 5 - Very Good
**Quality of Staffing** - Grade 5 - Very Good
**Quality of Management and Leadership** - Grade 5 - Very Good

This report and grades represent our assessment of the quality of the areas of performance which were examined during this inspection.
Grades for this care service may change following other regulatory activity. You can find the most up-to-date grades for this service by visiting our website www.careinspectorate.com or by calling us on 0845 600 9527 or visiting one of our offices.
2 How we inspected this service

The level of inspection we carried out
In this service we carried out a low intensity inspection. We carry out these inspections when we are satisfied that services are working hard to provide consistently high standards of care.

What we did during the inspection
We wrote this report after an unannounced inspection that took place between the hours of 9.00am and 2.00pm on Tuesday 11 December 2012 by Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland, Inspector Nancy Wyse. We gave feedback to the service on Thursday 31 January 2013.

As requested by us, the service sent us an annual return. They also sent us their self assessment form. The document identified areas of strengths and areas for further improvement.

We sent ten questionnaires to the service to give to parents and carers who used the service. Six completed questionnaires were returned to us before the inspection.

In this inspection we gathered evidence from a number of sources, including the relevant sections of policies, procedures, records and other documentation, including:

- Accident and incident records
- Aims and objectives
- Behaviour Management policy
- Certificate of Registration
- Certificate of Public Liability Insurance
- Child Protection policy
- Complaints policy
- Evidence from the services most recent Annual Return and Self Assessment documents
- Health and Safety policy
- Newsletters
- Notice boards
- Parents handbook
- Questionnaires
- Risk assessments
- Samples of children’s individual personal records and plans
- Staff training records
- Standards and Quality Report 2011/12
School Improvement Plan 2010/13

Observation of the nursery environment both indoors and outdoors
Examination of the resources and play experiences available.
Observation of how staff work and interact with the children
Observation of how staff interacted with parents and carers

Discussion with various people, including:
* The Head teacher
* Nursery teacher and staff
* Nursery Learning Support teacher
* Seven parents/carers who use the service
* Some children
* This information was taken into account during the inspection process and reported on.

Grading the service against quality themes and statements
We inspect and grade elements of care that we call ‘quality themes’. For example, one of the quality themes we might look at is ‘Quality of care and support’. Under each quality theme are ‘quality statements’ which describe what a service should be doing well for that theme. We grade how the service performs against the quality themes and statements.

Details of what we found are in Section 3: The inspection

Inspection Focus Areas (IFAs)
In any year we may decide on specific aspects of care to focus on during our inspections. These are extra checks we make on top of all the normal ones we make during inspection. We do this to gather information about the quality of these aspects of care on a national basis. Where we have examined an inspection focus area we will clearly identify it under the relevant quality statement.

Fire safety issues
We do not regulate fire safety. Local fire and rescue services are responsible for checking services. However, where significant fire safety issues become apparent, we will alert the relevant fire and rescue services so they may consider what action to take. You can find out more about care services’ responsibilities for fire safety at www.firelawscotland.org
What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at our last inspection

The requirement
The provider must ensure that, where staff to be employed are required by law to be registered with an appropriate professional body, checks on the validity of such registrations are carried out and results clearly evidenced. This is to comply with SSI/114 Regulation 9(2) (c) Fitness of employees and Regulation 19(2) (d) Records. It also takes into account the SSSC Codes of Practice for Employers of Social Service Workers. 1.2 Checking relevant registers Timescale for Implementation: within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter.

What the service did to meet the requirement
The provider had take action to meet this requirement.

The requirement is: Met

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at our last inspection
The provider had taken action to meet the one recommendation made at the last inspection.

The annual return
Every year all care services must complete an ‘annual return’ form to make sure the information we hold is up to date. We also use annual returns to decide how we will inspect the service.

Annual Return Received: Yes - Electronic

Comments on Self Assessment
Every year all care services must complete a ‘self assessment’ form telling us how their service is performing. We check to make sure this assessment is accurate.

We received an electronic self assessment document from the service. We were satisfied with the way they had completed this and with the relevant information they had given us for each of the headings we grade the service under. The service
identified areas of strengths and areas for further improvement.

**Taking the views of people using the care service into account**

We found that all the children were busy with a range of play experiences available to them. The children were particularly interested in dressing up and playing roles and characters. Children were confident in chatting to us and asking for help to dress up. The children all appeared to be happy and relaxed in the care of the staff. We saw that the children were aware of the nursery routine, in coming together for snack, washing their hands, and in joining together for circle time. We found the staff communicated well with the children and supported them in a caring manner.

**Taking carers' views into account**

We received six completed questionnaires from parents.

Parents' comments included:

"Very happy with the standard of care. My child is always keen to go to nursery and is rapidly developing.
Having helped out in the nursery with 'trips' I have experienced the service first hand and I am completely satisfied with it.
I am very happy with the standard of care provided by the nursery and I think that they work closely with parents too.
Since my child started nursery earlier this year my child's confidence, social skills, in all his learning and development have came on heaps and bounds.
At first we found it a bit unsettling being away from me, but the staff were so supportive by working with me to make the settling in period as easy as possible. My child absolutely loves nursery now and in particular loves both the staff, to me that speaks volumes."

We talked to seven parents/carers on the day of our visit as they picked up their children. They were all very positive about the service and confirmed they found the staff were approachable.

Comments included:

"My child settled well. I am happy with the service.
We are given regular updates by letter and newsletters.
I can’t praise the nursery highly enough. Any issues I have had the staff have sorted them.
The staff are approachable. My child loves it and it has been a positive experience for our family.
The staff give us feedback verbally. We are able to comment on our child's profile."
The staff take on children’s views. For example, my child took in a book and about recycling and the staff read the book to the children and carried out a paper mache activity from the book with the children. It is a really good nursery and my child has settled well. My child talks about nursery non stop when I pick them up to go home. The staff are good at getting the children to try and interact more. They staff are approachable. They have spoken to me a few times to give me updates. We had a parents evening and we were asked to make comment on our child’s profile. The staff know children as individuals and they work with that caring for them. They helped settle my child into the service, supporting me and my child. They listened to my concerns 100%. We have had chats and the staff and they have been great. Staff are friendly and approachable. I have helped out at trips to Dobbies, Vogrie, and Blackford Park. I also have helped in the nursery. The staff ask for our views and feedback about the service. The nursery has an open door policy if you have any concerns you can just speak to the staff.”
3 The inspection

We looked at how the service performs against the following quality themes and statements. Here are the details of what we found.

Quality Theme 1: Quality of Care and Support
Grade awarded for this theme: 5 - Very Good

Statement 1
We ensure that service users and carers participate in assessing and improving the quality of the care and support provided by the service.

Service strengths
We found that Loanhead Primary School Nursery had very good systems in place to ensure that parents, carers and children were involved in assessing and improving the quality of care and support provided by the service.

We concluded this after we:

Spoke with the head teacher, nursery teacher learning support assistant and staff
Spoke with six parents
Spoke with some children
Reviewed relevant policies
Observed staff caring, supporting and responding to the children
Reviewed feedback in our questionnaires

The nursery involved children and their families who use the service and asked for their views in many ways. These included:

* Regular newsletters
* Effective use of notice boards
* Informal and formal meetings
* Consultations
* Feedback through end of term reports
* Questionnaires
* Letters
* Suggestion box
The nursery aims included:
* “To ensure children and their families feel a sense of belonging and work in partnership with the nursery staff.

* To ensure that all children, parents, carers and members of staff are treated with respect.”
We found this was a true reflection of the service during our visit.

The nursery published regular newsletters. These were informative and included information on current topics the children were involved in, events to take place in the near future and parents evenings. Parents and carers were given a useful 'parent handbook' before their child started at the nursery. The handbook contained information on the nursery’s aims, routine, snacks, absence from nursery, regular events and fundraising events. In addition, there was information for parents regarding the Complaints procedure, confidentiality and giving feedback on the service provided. This helped them to know what they could expect from the service.

'Meet the teacher' sessions were used to inform new parent/carers of the nursery year plan, the curriculum and points of interests. In addition they provided all parents/carers with an opportunity to ask any unanswered questions they may have.

The nursery used questionnaires along with 'two stars and a wish', as a means of gaining feedback from parents and carers. We looked at a sample of these completed by six parents/carers and found these to be positive about the service. All six parents agreed
* The nursery provides a high quality childcare service which stimulates their child.
* The needs of their child were being met.

Children were regularly consulted through individual and group discussion using talk time and learning walls. We saw examples of these displayed in the nursery. Learning walls involved the children in the planning and learning processes and this was linked to the weekly plan. We saw how these reflected what children had learned. In addition, parent’s questionnaires provided children with the opportunity to share their 'views about the nursery and their own progress.

We found staff used their observations of children’s interest and their requests for specific activities to plan play experiences and support their care and learning needs. We saw staff responding to children’s requests, for example, children asked the teacher to put the music on and she responded by explaining and encouraging
children to do this by themselves.

Feedback from our parent/carer questionnaires confirmed that:

* Overall, parents/carers were happy with the quality of care their child received in the service.
* They were kept informed about what was happening in the service, for example through newsletters and information boards.

**Areas for improvement**

The nursery should continue to monitor and maintain the very high standards of quality care and support provided to children and their families. The head teacher and staff should ensure they continue to identify areas for improvement and implement action plans to address these.

The service identified the following area for improvement in relation to this quality statement:

“A learning wall approach to topic work (asking children what they already know, what they would like to know, and what they have learned) is consistently used for topics and also used for unplanned themes. Ensure that this is maintained throughout the year and used effectively to inform us of depth of understanding.

To reinstate the suggestion box in a suitable place in the foyer.”

We agree that these areas of improvement would further enhance the very good practice carried out in relation to this Quality Statement.

**Grade awarded for this statement:** 5 - Very Good

**Number of requirements:** 0

**Number of recommendations:** 0

**Statement 3**

We ensure that service users’ health and wellbeing needs are met.

**Service strengths**

We found that Loanhead Primary School Nursery had excellent systems in place to ensure children’s health and wellbeing needs were met.

The nursery had a positive ethos and this helped children to feel valued and respected.

The nursery had clear admission and settling in procedures in place. These included
completing registration forms for all children. These forms allowed the nursery to gather relevant information with regards to each child’s personal care and support needs. These included information on medical conditions, medication details, GP, allergies and dietary needs.

Staff had a clear understanding of protecting children. We found the Head teacher took the role of child protection officer. All staff had undertaken Child Protection training.

The planned programme of activities for children reflected the social, personal, and emotional development of children. It was evident through observation, discussion and through written reports that the staff had a good understanding of the children’s care, learning, development needs and interests. Children had individual ‘Personal Learning Plans’ (PLPs).

We looked at a sample of these folders and found staff observations had reflected progress in children’s learning.

We found good hygiene practices were established in relation to children’s hand washing before snack and after toileting. In addition staff supported children with tooth brushing and we could see they were following good practice guidelines.

Healthy eating was promoted in the nursery and the snack menu was displayed. We observed children enjoying a rotating snack, a social time with peers and staff. Children’s dietary requirements were catered for. Children had the choice of crackers, cheese, grapes, banana, milk and water. The nursery celebrated children’s birthdays by making a cake to share with the children.

The nursery were taking part in the ‘Rights’ Respecting Schools Initiative along with the school. They were encouraging children to share, be fair and help each other. This was a true reflection of the children’s behaviour we saw during the inspection.

Children were learning about ‘Global Citizenship’ through learning about the world and people who live in it. They had made links with children in Columbia and had carried out a range of activities to explore and learn about life in Columbia. For example they had looked at the national flower, ‘the orchid’ birds and coffee growing.

We found the nursery had accessed specialists from other agencies to support individual care and development needs of the children in their care. The Learning Support teacher was in the nursery supporting staff and observing individual children during their play. The nursery teacher and staff had visited a child who was due to start the nursery, in other settings. This was to familiarise themselves with the child and their specific care and learning needs.

Clear procedures were in place for the administration of medication, First Aid and Accidents and Incidents. These procedures included gaining permission from parents or carers to administer medication. In addition, staff were first aid trained.
We saw staff talking informally to parents as they dropped off and picked up their children. We could see the relationships with parents and carers were very positive.

We sampled parents/carers feedback from the nursery questionnaires. These had included what parents/carers thought were the best things about the nursery. Comments included:

“The nursery is very child centred and the staff obviously care greatly for all the children.
The caring environment which helped massively when my child was settling in. My child’s confidence has been boosted, and their social skills are developing well. The staff make the children feel at home which definitely made both my children look forward to each day at nursery.
Nursery outings, focusing on projects discussed in the nursery and free play. The science exploration e.g. bugs in the garden and looking at ice.
Learning progress folders are good for the parents to see what your child is actually doing in nursery.
The Commonwealth theme.”

Areas for improvement
The nursery should continue to monitor and maintain the excellent standards of meeting children’s health and wellbeing needs. The Head teacher and staff should ensure they continue to identify areas for improvement and implement action plans to address these.

The service identified the following areas for improvement in relation to this quality statement:
“We should continue to ensure a breadth of health and wellbeing outcomes are covered. We should continue to highlight the importance of a healthy diet. We already provide posters in the kitchen that the children notice and discuss and have many games but we could have more books in that area or nearby.”
We agree that these areas of improvement would further enhance the excellent practice carried out in relation to this Quality Statement.

**Grade awarded for this statement:** 6 - Excellent

**Number of requirements:** 0

**Number of recommendations:** 0
Quality Theme 2: Quality of Environment

Grade awarded for this theme: 5 - Very Good

Statement 1
We ensure that service users and carers participate in assessing and improving the quality of the environment within the service.

Service strengths
We found that Loanhead Primary School Nursery had very good systems in place to ensure that parents, carers and children were involved in assessing and improving the quality of the environment provided by the service.

Evidence which we discussed in Quality Theme1, Statement 1 also applies to this Quality Statement.

We saw the children were making choices about play experiences they wanted to be involved in. The children were using all areas of playroom, they were thinking creatively and independent in their play. For example, a child painting a picture at the paint easel started to paint her hands and make hand prints. We watched as other children joined in this experience, they went on to experiment by mixing different colours of paint.

We found the nursery were using 'Home Link' activities to encourage and support children’s interests and learning between the home and the nursery. These included activities children had achieved, such as 'I can' wash my hands and face, dress myself, go to the toilet and brush my teeth.

We found the nursery staff and families using the service worked together to raise funds to benefit the nursery environment to take nursery children on their summer trip. The staff used notices and photographs to inform parent of items they had purchased through fundraising.

Areas for improvement
The nursery should continue to monitor and maintain the very good standards of quality of the environment provided. The Head teacher and staff should ensure they continue to identify areas for improvement and implement action plans to address these.

The service identified the following area for improvement in relation to this quality
Statement:
“We need to create a parent child questionnaire that includes questions covering the environment, staff and management of the nursery. We currently only survey against quality of care and support.”

We agree that this area of improvement would further enhance the very good practice carried out in relation to this Quality Statement.

Grade awarded for this statement: 5 - Very Good

Number of requirements: 0

Number of recommendations: 0

Statement 2
We make sure that the environment is safe and service users are protected.

Service strengths
Loanhead Primary School Nursery provided excellent evidence of how they met this Quality Statement.

A secure entry system was in place. Visitors to the school were asked to report to the main reception where they signed the visitors’ book before they entered the service.

The nursery had a welcoming entrance area with a range of information and displays for children and their families. Attendance registers were completed and allowed staff to keep a running total of the children present during all sessions. Systems were in place for absent children and these were on display in the entrance area and were detailed for parents/carers in the Nursery handbook. This ensured children’s safety.

From observation on the day of our visit we found the nursery environment was clean, bright and well maintained. The school Janitor was on site and this allowed issues logged to be dealt with quickly.

The playroom was bright, well ventilated and the layout allowed children to move freely around their chosen play experiences. We found the toys and equipment were clean and suitable for the children attending. There was a nursery support base adjacent to the playroom. This room was also used by staff and children for circle time and group activities.

We observed that children were aware of nursery routines, including visiting other areas of the school and helping to tidy up toys at the end of the session. This helped to maintain a safe environment and supported their learning. We saw children visited the school gym hall to practice games for their nursery party. This provided opportunities for children to develop movement skills and enjoy energetic play.

There was a sink in the playroom which gave children responsibility and
independence in washing their hands before snack and in preparation for baking activities. Toilet facilities were adjacent to the playroom; they were clean, age appropriate and well stocked with tissue and soap. Posters were displayed to show children how to follow good hand washing procedures.

We found staff had undertaken food hygiene training and they were following good hygiene practices in relation to preparation of snacks. Environmental health checks confirmed satisfactory standards.

A good range of interactive displays were available. We found these were popular and used well by the children. In addition wall displays contained a range of photographic evidence of activities both indoors and outdoors which the children had been involved in.

The outdoor space provided a secure area for children. In addition children were taken on outings. We found risk assessments were carried out prior to nursery outings to ensure children’s safety.

Out of the six parent/carers who returned our questionnaires all parents/carers agreed

* There was enough space in the nursery for their children to play and get involved in a range of activities.
* The staff asked for their child’s views and about the activities and outings, and used them to plan future activities.’

Parents we spoke with during the inspection made the following comments:
“My three children have used the nursery. I can’t fault it it’s fantastic. The facilities are clean. The staff provide an easy and relaxed atmosphere. My child really enjoys the nursery and there are always good activities for them. I see a big difference in my child.”

Areas for improvement

The nursery should continue to monitor and maintain the excellent standards of quality of the environment provided. The Head teacher and staff should ensure they continue to identify areas for improvement and implement action plans to address these.

Grade awarded for this statement: 6 - Excellent

Number of requirements: 0

Number of recommendations: 0
Quality Theme 3: Quality of Staffing

Grade awarded for this theme: 5 - Very Good

**Statement 1**
We ensure that service users and carers participate in assessing and improving the quality of staffing in the service.

**Service strengths**
We found that Loanhead Primary School Nursery had very good systems in place to ensure that parents and carers were involved in assessing and improving the quality of staffing in the service.

Evidence which we discussed in Quality Statements 1.1 and 2.1 also applies to this Quality Statement.

Newsletters were used to signpost parent and carers to how they could make comments and suggestions about the service.

Out of the six parent/carers who returned the nursery questionnaires all six told us that:

* Staff were friendly helpful and welcoming

Through the CI questionnaires, the nursery’s own questionnaires and in discussion with parents and carers during our visit, it was evident that the staff were held in high regard and positive relationships had been developed. Parents/carers told us the nursery had an ‘open door’ policy and that the staff were approachable.

**Areas for improvement**
We found that the nursery was maintaining current very good practice in relation to this quality statement. The Head teacher and staff should ensure they continue to identify areas for improvement and implement action plans to address these.

The service identified the following area for improvement in relation to this quality Statement:
“Continue to look at ways for parents to be involved in the nursery.”
We agree that this area of improvement would further enhance the very good practice carried out in relation to this Quality Statement.
Statement 3
We have a professional, trained and motivated workforce which operates to National Care Standards, legislation and best practice.

Service strengths
We found that Loanhead Primary School Nursery provided excellent evidence of how they met this Quality Statement.

We concluded this after we:

* Spoke with the Head teacher, nursery teacher and staff.
* Confirmed staff registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC),
* Reviewed relevant policies
* Read minutes of meetings
* Viewed the staff handbook

All of the staff working in the nursery were qualified and registered with the appropriate professional body. The Nursery teacher was registered with the General Teaching Council and the other member of staff was registered with the (SSSC) the organisation who are responsible for registering people who work with children and regulate their education and training.

We found the staff communicated and worked well as an effective team to provide a very good quality of care for the children. The staff handbook contained a range of information including, the nursery aims, policies and procedures and information for supply staff. This ensured all staff were aware of their role, responsibilities and how the nursery operates.

The system for staff annual Performance Review and Development (PRD) was successful in giving staff the opportunity to set targets, formally reflect and assess their own performance and think about how this impacted on the service provided. Staff had undertaken their annual PRD.

We found from speaking with staff and looking at files they had demonstrated a commitment to their own continued professional development (CPD). Staff told us they had opportunities to take part in training as a team through in service and through other forums. Staff kept records of their own CPD, We saw that staff kept up to date and detailed records of their training and any reading or research they had done.
We found the nursery teacher and staff were motivated and enthusiastic about their work. They made good use of planning and assessment materials available. They identified children’s individual care needs and interests through responsive planning. This was evidenced further in children’s individual profiles. The Head teacher has the overall responsibility for the nursery and meets regularly with the nursery teacher to evaluate the service.

Areas for improvement

We found that the nursery was maintaining current excellent practice in relation to this quality statement. The Head teacher and staff should ensure they continue to identify areas for improvement and implement action plans to address these.

Grade awarded for this statement: 6 - Excellent

Number of requirements: 0

Number of recommendations: 0
Quality Theme 4: Quality of Management and Leadership

Grade awarded for this theme: 5 - Very Good

Statement 1
We ensure that service users and carers participate in assessing and improving the quality of the management and leadership of the service.

Service strengths
Loanhead Primary School Nursery had very good systems in place to ensure that parents and carers were involved in assessing and improving the quality of management and leadership of the service.

Evidence which we discussed in Quality Statements 1.1, 2.1 and 3.1 also applies to this Quality Statement.

The nursery had clear defined Aims in place and we found the staff were working to meet these Aims by working in partnership with parents and carers. The service’s Complaints procedure was contained in the nursery’s parent information leaflet. This encouraged parents/carers to contact the Head teacher in the first instance and gave them CI contact details.

Areas for improvement
We found that the nursery was maintaining current very good practice in relation to this quality statement.

The service identified the following area for improvement in relation to this quality statement:
"Maintain promotion of positive relationships between nursery and home to encourage open and honest discussion about how we can improve."
We agree that this area of improvement would further enhance the excellent practice carried out in relation to this Quality Statement.

Grade awarded for this statement: 5 - Very Good
Number of requirements: 0
Number of recommendations: 0

Statement 4
Service strengths
Loanhead Primary School Nursery had very good quality assurance systems in place.

We found the Head teacher and staff embraced the process of self evaluation. They were committed to self assessment and consultation with parents, carers and children. 'How Good is Our School' was used to continually assess the service on an annual basis.

We found a summary of the last inspection report was displayed and easy accessible for parents to read. This provided parents with information about the nursery’s progress and areas for improvement planned.

It was evident that the staff were involved in weekly, long term plans and improvement of the service. This information was shared with parents and carers through weekly newsletters and welcome boards. We found the Head teacher, nursery teacher had regular meetings throughout the school term to check progress and ensure quality.

The nursery received support from Midlothian Council Quality Improvement Officer. A Standards and Quality Report 2011/12 and Improvement plan were in place to support the future delivery and improvement of the school and nursery.

We found parents were being kept informed about nursery policies through notice boards in the entrance area.

Areas for improvement
We found that the nursery was maintaining current very good practice in relation to this quality statement.

The service identified the following area for improvement in relation to this quality statement:
“Develop a yearly service questionnaire encompassing all areas of quality for parents/carers.
Work alongside primary 1 teachers (early years) as we develop a Curriculum for Excellence.”
We agree that these areas of improvement would further enhance the very good practice carried out in relation to this Quality Statement.
Grade awarded for this statement: 5 - Very Good

Number of requirements: 0

Number of recommendations: 0
4 Other information

Complaints
No complaints have been upheld, or partially upheld, since the last inspection.

Enforcements
We have taken no enforcement action against this care service since the last inspection.

Additional Information
No additional information.

Action Plan
Failure to submit an appropriate action plan within the required timescale, including any agreed extension, where requirements and recommendations have been made, will result in the Care Inspectorate re-grading a Quality Statement within the Quality of Management and Leadership Theme (or for childminders, Quality of Staffing Theme) as unsatisfactory (1). This will result in the Quality Theme being re-graded as unsatisfactory (1).
5 Summary of grades

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<td>Statement 3</td>
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<th>Quality of Management and Leadership - 5 - Very Good</th>
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<td>Statement 4</td>
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6 Inspection and grading history

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Gradings</th>
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<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support 5 - Very Good</td>
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<td>Management and Leadership 5 - Very Good</td>
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All inspections and grades before 1 April 2011 are those reported by the former regulator of care services, the Care Commission.
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